

Senior Shenanigans

During the annual Homecoming assembly Sept. 14 seniors throw chalk and glitter into the air. This has become the traditional prank for the senior class to do at the assembly. Not only is it disruptive but also messy and disrespectful to our administration and janitors. Photo by Alex Scimecca

Seniors need to step it up

Class pranks are a cliché

After slogging our way through four years of high school we seniors are ready to feel important. The teachers have gotten to know us. The underclassmen envy us. (Personally it's hard for me to imagine anyone envying the mountain of college applications I'm buried under these days, but I'm told this is how it works.) The senior traditions belong to us. And we get to go through life knowing that each day brings us a little closer to that glorious rite of passage, graduation.

But even though I've spent most of my high school career waiting to be a senior, I can't say that right now I'm very proud of that title.

Let's review some things we've done as a class so far: thrown a variety of unsavory substances at an assembly, publicly bashed our own football team, boycotted a dance because the administration decided to ban the sacred art of grinding and issued underground shirts with the supremely clever slogan, "Grab some 13uds."

Not only are these activities a pointless waste of the considerable talent and charisma of our class, they're also entirely unoriginal. Am I the only one who remembers that last year's seniors threw baby powder at an assembly, too? The alcohol-themed shirt has also been done

before—and the 2012 seniors didn't have to resort to making letters out of numbers either. Don't get me wrong, these ideas were dumb the first time around. But now they're dumb and they're cliché. We like to think that we're changing things up, but we're just playing the same tired games.

It's occurred to me that with the amount of organization and involvement that our senior pranks have included, we could have accomplished something really important. What if we made our own underground shirts and donated the money we saved to charity? What if instead of planning to disrupt an assembly, we sent a delegation to

student council asking to incorporate a cool speaker or a performer? What if, rather than ditching Homecoming for party buses, a group of us showed up ready to waltz or swing dance?

There are fun, unexpected and at times even meaningful ways to surprise and confuse authority. The administration expects us to act up. They expect pranks at assemblies. They expect us to behave like immature teenagers. The way to defy those expectations is to show the administration—and the rest of the school—what cool, thoughtful, interesting individuals the seniors really are.

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